



Kolb/Sabino Canyon Road Connection Task Force



Meeting Summary



Tuesday, May 25, 2010, 6 to 7:30 p.m.
Morris K. Udall Regional Center
7200 E. Tanque Verde Road, Tucson, AZ 85715

ATTENDEES

Task Force Members

Gene Brown
John Carlson, Sr.
Diana Dessy
Art Hall
Kathy Hebb
Bob McDaniel
Laura Newsom

City of Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT) Staff and Consultants

Michael Graham, TDOT, Project Manager/Public Information Officer
Justin Searle, Administrative Assistant, Ward 2 Council Office
Kevin Thornton, Psomas, Project Manager
Alejandro Angel, Psomas, Traffic Engineering Manager
Scott Stapp, HDR, Environmental Planner
Jan Gordley, Gordley Design Group, Public Involvement
Alice Templeton, Gordley Design Group, Public Involvement
Adriana Prieto, Gordley Design Group, Public Involvement

NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Task Force Members

Grant Bennett
Michael Tone

MATERIALS PROVIDED

- Agenda
- Jan. 26, 2010 Task Force Meeting Minutes
- Noise Measurement Information Sheet
- Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Michael Graham, TDOT, Project Manager/Public Information Officer, welcomed the Task Force members and introduced himself. A quorum was established. Michael introduced Justin Searle, Ward 2 Council Office, Administrative Assistant. Justin announced he will be the point of contact for the Ward 2 Office and encouraged the Task Force members and audience to contact him with any questions or concerns.

The project team and Task Force members introduced themselves.

- John Carlson, Sr. – Citizen Transportation Advisory Committee
- Laura Newsom – Neighborhood Representative, Indian Ridge Estates
- Gene Brown – Neighborhood Representative, Colonia Verde
- Bob McDaniel – Neighborhood Representative, Dorado Country Club Estates
- Diana Dessy – Business Representative, Anthem Equity Group, Inc.
- Art Hall – Parks Representative, Pantano Ridge Estates
- Kathy Hebb – Neighborhood Representative, Pantano II

Michael reviewed the items on the agenda.

TASK FORCE MEETING FORMAT

Jan Gordley, Gordley Design Group, Public Involvement Consultant, explained that Task Force meetings are subject to Open Meeting Law requirements. Due to these requirements, the meeting would be recorded and the agenda would have to be strictly adhered to. Jan added that the project team could address individual questions and concerns from the audience after the meeting or at a later time.

APPROVAL OF JAN. 26, 2010, MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the draft minutes of the Jan. 26, 2010 Task Force meeting. The motion was seconded and approved with no discussion.

PROJECT STATUS AND UPDATE

Kevin Thornton, Psomas, Project Manager, discussed connectivity. He said the project team met with the City of Tucson and Pima County Parks and Recreation to discuss where paths and sidewalks would be placed along the proposed project route. The roadway north of Crestline Drive would have six-foot sidewalks on both sides of the road. South of Crestline Drive, adjacent to Udall Park, would be a twelve-foot multiuse path and an eight-foot soft path east of the roadway, which is standard for Pima County and the City of Tucson. South of Crestline Drive, west of the roadway, would be a six-foot asphalt path. A ten-foot path, east of the roadway, and a six-foot sidewalk, west of the roadway, would continue to Kolb Road across the landfill and the Pantano Bridge. There would either be a traffic signal at Crestline Drive or a High Intensity Activated Crosswalk (HAWK) south of Crestline Drive for pedestrians crossing from east to west to Udall Park.

Scott Stapp, HDR, Environmental Planner, discussed noise measurement and mitigation. Preliminary information indicates the possibility of noise wall implementation at the homes west of Udall Park and on the west side of Sabino Canyon Road, north of Tanque Verde Road. Walls could vary in height. There are two criteria to attain noise walls: noise levels at 64 decibels or above and an increase of 15 decibels. The homes with existing walls on Sabino Canyon Road, north of Tanque Verde Road, do not qualify for noise walls, nor do homes south of the project near the Kolb Road intersection.

Alejandro Angel, Psomas, Traffic Engineering Manager, discussed traffic and traffic signal information. The volume of traffic at the Sabino Canyon Road and Tanque Verde Road intersection would not greatly increase, since there would be a change in the direction of traffic. Although traffic volumes in the area are expected to increase by 2030, traffic at the intersection will improve. Alejandro passed out copies from the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices that listed requirements for traffic signals. If volumes are low, there is no need to interrupt traffic with a traffic signal. Udall Park is a traffic generator, and contributes to heavy peaks of traffic, but traffic volumes are not sustained. A traffic signal at Crestline Drive and Sabino Canyon Road is still possible. The results may be in by the public meeting on June 23, 2010.

Kevin clarified that the project is at fifteen- to twenty-percent design. Construction could be started as soon as May 2011 at the intersection of Tanque Verde Road and Sabino Canyon Road and would continue south. The Environmental Assessment (EA), part of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements, should be completed by fall 2010. Scott added that the EA is a federal standard, and the project can only go so far before it needs to be federally approved. Once the EA has been approved, funding for final design will be released.

A number of additional concerns and questions regarding streetlights, access to shopping centers, the landfill, archaeology and bus pullouts were brought up. Due to the Open Meeting Law requirements, the project team asked that the issues be addressed after the meeting or at a later time.

JUNE PUBLIC MEETING UPDATE

The next public meeting is Wednesday, June 23, 2010, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the cafeteria at Van Horne Elementary School. Jan Gordley encouraged the Task Force members to attend.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND MEETING DATES

Another public meeting will be held in the fall to address the EA. A Task Force meeting will be scheduled after the public meeting on June 23, 2010 and prior to the fall public meeting.

CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

Five members of the audience made comments and requests regarding cost, HAWKs, traffic, pollution, wildlife and the integrity of the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) and the City of Tucson. The project team addressed the questions after the meeting.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved with no dissent.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.